उन स्थानों, जिन्हें वे जोड़ती है, राज्यों/क्षेत्रों जिन्हें वे सेवित करती हैं । जहां से गुजरती हैं, नदियों, पर्वतमालाओं राजवंशों, आंदोलनों आदि पर रखे जाते हैं ।

**Efforts made to generate internal resources of railways**

5769. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what concerted efforts have been made by Government during the last three years to generate internal resources so that the Indian Railways become economically and financially viable rather than annually hiking the fares: and

(b) what results have been achieved so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Annual Action Plans have been launched to effect economies in expenditure and to augment earnings. The strategies followed in this regard have been regularly discussed in periodic Conferences of General Managers held at the Railway Board level. Specific areas on which attention is being bestowed are :

(1) Economy in energy consumption;

(2) Closure of Steam Sheds and phasing out of steam traction;

(3) Monitoring of purchases and control over Inventory balances;

(4) Curbs on expenditure on items like Over time, Travelling allowances, etc.

At the same time, efforts have been made to augment Revenues by—

(1) Innovative marketing efforts to secure more of high-rated traffic;

(2) Plugging of leakages in earnings due to ticketless travel, etc.;

(3) Increasing revenue from commercial exploitation of railway land; and

(4) Steamlining the machinery for collection and disposal of scrap.

However, additional resource mobilisation could not be avoided because:

(a) The Railways do not have any control over the ever increasing costs relating to dearness allowance to staff, increased outgo on account of pension, etc., consequent on liberalisation of pension payments, cost of materials, cost of fuel, power tariff, etc; and

(b) Dwindling budgetary support and high cost of market borrowings have only added to the need of generation of internal resources for maintaining a reasonable size of the Railways' Plan.

**Unremunerative proposal for new Railway Projects**

5770. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals for new railway projects submitted by Government of Punjab during the last three years:

(b) whether some of the proposals have been found unremunerative; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on the proposals submitted by the State Government ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) The following proposals have been received from the Punjab